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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

"ZOONOSIS CONTROL DIVISION S

PUBLIC HEALTH REGION 11

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

2003

7	APRIL			
1	RABIE	S REP	<u>ORT</u>	
***	2003	2002	<u>2001</u>	
JANUARY	0	0	3	
FEBRUARY	0	1	3	
MARCH	3	4	8	
APRIL	2	4	4	
TOTAL	5	9	18	

There were two positive cases of rabies in PHR 11 during April: one bat from Cameron County and one dog from Jim Wells County. One decomposed bat from Jim Hogg County was also investigated.

The main items this month was the report of a positive dog from Jim Wells County. Needless to say, we thought the Domestic Dog/Coyote strain that we have worked so hard to eliminate had returned. However, the strain infecting this dog turned out to be the Texas Fox strain. This dog had recently been in the San Angelo area, which is in the current range of the Texas Fox rabies epizootic. The rabies incubation time frame also indicated that the dog was incubating rabies when it arrived in South Texas. We have not seen any other animals from Jim Wells County with rabies since then. We would like to say "thank you" to the veterinarian who recognized that this might be a case of rabies in an area that has not seen canine rabies in several years!

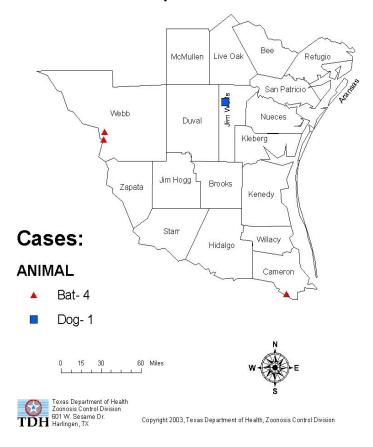
POSITIVE RABIES CASES

CASE	DATE	COUNTY	SPECIES
4	4/07/03	Jim Wells	Dog
5	4/08/03	Cameron	Freetailed bat

OTHER RABIES RESULTS

DATE	COUNTY	SPECIES	RESULTS
04/29/03	Jim Hogg	Bat	Decomposed

Positive Rabies Cases April 2003



ACO COURSES

An Animal Control Officer Advanced Course is scheduled for July 17-18, 2003 in Harlingen. An Basic ACO Course is scheduled for August 6-8, 2003 in Harlingen. Deadline for registration is May 30th. Please submit a COMPLETE registration form for each student and return it to the Zoonosis Control office in Harlingen. There are no prerequisites for the Basic Course and no charge for attending either course. If you have any questions, please call Letty Tamayo at (956) 444-3224.

Bite Prevention Week

Texas Department of Health is offering bite prevention materials to animal shelters, humane societies, veterinarians, physicians, and others who want to promote **May 18-24, 2003** as Bite Prevention Week in their communities. Some of the material can be customized with your agency's logo, so start planning now. Bite Prevention materials are downloadable from the TDH Zoonosis Control Division's website:

http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/zoonosis

DISEASES IN NATURE CONFERENCE

The 53rd Annual Southwest Conference on Diseases in Nature Transmissible to Man is scheduled for June 25-27, 2003 at the Ambassador Hotel in Amarillo, Texas. Topics include zoonotic diseases, vectorborne disease, agro-terrorism and West Nile virus. Physicians, veterinarians, registered veterinary technicians, and animal control officers are encouraged to attend. For further information or a registration form refer to the Zoonosis Control Division's website:

http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/zoonosis/ EDUCATIO/DIN/DIN2003.asp

TDH LABORATORY-CONFIRMED RABID ANIMALS PUBLIC HEALTH REGION 11- 2003

COUNTY	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	TOTAL
CAMERON				BAT-1	1
JIM WELLS				DOG-1	1
WEBB			BAT-3		3
TOTAL	0	0	3	2	5